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# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT & ELECTIONS

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## NOTICE OF MEETING

**DATE:** Monday, March 15, 2021  
**TIME:** 4:00 PM  
**PLACE:** Room 35 - State House

### SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION

**House Bill No. [5591](#)**

**BY Lombardi, Henries**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- EMERGENCY SHELTERS {LC1691/1} (Establishes rules and procedures for licensing emergency shelters, including setting minimum standards and prohibiting the charging of fees to the residents.)

02/12/2021 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/28/2021 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5640](#)**

**BY Cassar, Amore, Kazarian, Henries, Felix, Morales, Knight**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS {LC1384/1} (Allows individuals, who have not reached the age of eighteen (18) years, to vote in a primary election, as long as the voter will be eighteen (18) as of the date of the general or special election.)

02/22/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

02/26/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/01/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5738](#)**

**BY Kazarian, Fogarty, Alzate, McEntee, Morales, Potter, Kislak, Edwards, Barros, Felix**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS {LC1554/1} (Requires all new school buildings and those undergoing major renovations or substantial repair or replacement to plumbing systems to install water bottle filling stations.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5739](#)**

**BY Serpa**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION {LC1671/1} (Requires the contracting department of the department of human services or the department of administration to pilot at least one contract for professional or technical services using automatic verification software to verify hours billed under contract.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5741](#)**

**BY Edwards, Kislak, Caldwell, Casimiro, Felix, Henries, Kazarian, Handy, Baginski, Tobon**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - STATE BUILDING CODE

{LC2028/1} (Requires public building/place of public accommodation to have single-user toilet

facility for use by any gender eff. 1/1/22/ new construction/ renovations over 50% value of

state/municipal buildings provide for single-user toilet eff. 1/1/22.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5743](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Batista**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND

EXPENDITURES REPORTING {LC1971/1} (Eliminates competing reporting requirements

relating to referenda and consolidate all reporting requirements concerning the independent

expenditures and electioneering communications for elections.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5744](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Batista**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- NOMINATION OF PARTY AND

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES {LC1975/1} (Allows voters to endorse nomination of candidacy

documents by mail, email, or facsimile and deliver to the candidate or board of canvassers

in-person, via mail, email or facsimile.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5745](#)**

**BY Giraldo, Morales**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - MAIL BALLOTS {LC1886/1} (Creates

early in-person voting and online applications for mail ballots. It removes the two (2) witnesses'

notarization of voter signature for mail ballots.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5749](#)**

**BY Giraldo, Morales**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- MUNICIPAL DETENTION

FACILITY CORPORATIONS {LC1874/1} (Prohibits the operation of private detention facilities

and private public partnerships within the state and prohibits the housing of Rhode Island prisoners

in other states as well as hold out-of-state prisoners in Rhode Island facilities.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5750](#)**

**BY Giraldo, Morales**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT {LC1875/1}  
(Prohibits contracts with private, for profit, prison facilities or with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5751](#)**

**BY Giraldo, Morales**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --  
CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT {LC910/1} (Provides for a safety inspection of the Wyatt Detention Facility twice a year.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5756](#)**

**BY Place, Quattrocchi, Chippendale, Nardone, Filippi, Newberry, Fenton-Fung**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND  
VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES {LC1817/1} (Creates a new post election audit procedure to verify the accuracy of mail ballot envelopes user's signature prior to the certification of the elections results.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5890](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Shanley, Ruggiero, Craven, Barros, Amore**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS {LC1973/1} (Allows the board of elections to begin the certification of mail ballots 20 days prior to election day and require notice of such certification sessions and establishes a new and more comprehensive mail ballot voter signature verification process.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5943](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Corvese**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS {LC1970/1} (Repeal is to follow the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and to account for permitting voters to cast provisional ballots at the polling place.)

02/25/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5999](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Vella-Wilkinson**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- WRITE-IN VOTES {LC1974/1}

(Requires all write in candidates to file prior to election a declaration of intent to run for office with the secretary of state. Finally it would require the board of elections to report all votes received by declared write in candidates.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6000](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Tanzi, Ajello, Cassar, Cortvriend, Henries, Batista, Donovan, Speakman, Felix, Ranglin-Vassell**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - MAIL BALLOTS {LC1972/1} (Removes the two (2) witness and notary requirement for mail ballot applications and mail ballot certificate envelope. It would also delete the requirement that person may vote by mail, only if they are unable to vote in person.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [5983](#)**

**BY Kazarian, Morales, Potter, Henries, Edwards, Felix, McGaw**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE - OF SUFFRAGE {LC1843/1} (This joint resolution would propose an amendment to the state constitution eliminating the thirty-day residency and registration requirement before voting in an election.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/12/2021 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [5742](#)**

**BY Phillips, Caldwell, Carson, Cortvriend, Serpa, Fellela, Casey, Filippi, Lima**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE (GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR TO APPEAR JOINTLY ON THE BALLOT) {LC1352/1}

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [5729](#)**

**BY Phillips, Potter, Caldwell, Carson, Cortvriend, Serpa, Fellela, Casey, Lima**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE-OF ELECTIONS AND CAMPAIGN FINANCE {LC1351/1} (Proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing four (4) year terms for members of the general assembly, elected members from even numbered districts would begin to be elected to four (4) year terms.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/12/2021 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [5595](#)**

**BY Perez, Vella-Wilkinson, Shanley**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE (INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM) {LC1128/1}

02/12/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [5022](#)**

**BY Lombardi, Potter**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE - FOUR YEAR TERMS AND TERM LIMITS FOR REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS {LC170/1}

01/13/2021 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [5861](#)**

**BY Place, Nardone**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE -- REFERENDUM ON LINE ITEM VETO {LC2086/1} (This joint resolution would provide for the publishing and submission to the electors a proposition of amendment to the constitution of the state for a line item veto.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/12/2021 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [5862](#)**

**BY Fenton-Fung**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE - FOUR YEAR TERMS AND TERM LIMITS FOR REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS {LC1447/1} (This joint resolution would submit a constitutional amendment to the voters at the next election scheduled for November, 2022 to limit the terms of senators and representatives to 5 consecutive 2 year terms commencing with the election of November, 2024.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/12/2021 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**The State House remains closed to in-person testimony.**

The meeting will be televised on Capitol Television, which can be seen on Cox Channels 15, and 61, in high definition on Cox Channel 1061, on Full Channel on Channel 15 and on Channel 34 by Verizon subscribers.

It will also be live streamed at <http://rilegislature.gov/CapTV/Pages/default.aspx> .

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

Written testimony is strongly encouraged and may be submitted via

**HouseStateGovernmentandElections@rilegislature.gov**

**Indicate your name, bill number, and viewpoint (for/against/neither) at top of message.**

**Due to high volume, clerks are not screening this inbox for verbal testimony requests.**

**This inbox is for written testimony only.**

DEADLINE: Written testimony should be submitted no later than three (3) hours prior to the posted meeting time. Every effort will be made to share written testimony submitted before the deadline with committee members prior to the hearing. Testimony received after deadline will be sent to committee members and posted to the website as soon as possible.

**For faster processing, it is recommended that testimony is submitted as a PDF file.**

**Testimony will be posted on the General Assembly website,**

**<http://www.rilegislature.gov/Special/comdoc/Pages/HSGE.aspx> .**

**VERBAL TESTIMONY**

Due to the extremely high volume of requests, and in order to accommodate as many constituents as possible, please take note of the revised procedure for verbal testimony:

**\*DEADLINE: Requests for verbal testimony must be submitted via the link, by 4:00 PM on Sunday, March 14, 2021.**

For verbal testimony requests, [CLICK HERE](#)

Verbal testimony accepted on any bill scheduled for "Hearing and/or Consideration" only

The committee is unable to designate a specific time that you will be called. In the event you are unavailable when called, witnesses are urged to submit written testimony.

Jill Cataldi

Committee Clerk

222-4435

[HouseStateGovernmentandElections@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseStateGovernmentandElections@rilegislature.gov)

**POSTED: FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021, 3:21 PM**